

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/805,356

Examiner

Aaron M. Dunwoody

Applicant(s)

BERTHOLIN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Request of Continued Examination filed 3/30/2007.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20 and 23.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____


AARON DUNWOODY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/28/2007 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John R. Moses on 4/16/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A device for connection with relative and controlled sealing between a pipe (1) and a ceramic tube (7) comprising:

a cylindrical chamber (5) that is attached in a sealed manner to said pipe, whereby one end of the ceramic tube is placed inside said chamber,

a seal comprising at least two sets of sealing fixtures (3, 3') placed in the annular space between the ceramic tube and the chamber,

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a crosspiece (4) interposed between the two sets of sealing fixtures (3, 3'),
a flange (6) for applying longitudinal pressure to a compression ring in the form of
a flange (6) for compressing the sealing fixtures (3, 3'), the compression ring (4')
applying longitudinal pressure to one set of sealing fixtures (3') which compress against
the crosspiece (4), the crosspiece (4) applying longitudinal pressure against the other
set of sealing fixtures (3) that compress with respect to the housing (5) and the
~~compression ring (4') applying longitudinal pressure to one set of sealing fixtures (3'),
which compress against the crosspiece (4), the crosspiece (4) applying longitudinal
pressure against the other set of sealing fixtures (3) that compress with respect to the
housing (5), and~~

an injector arrangement (8) for injection of a fluid between the two sets of sealing
fixtures (3, 3') so as to apply a pressure differential that is determined on each of the
fixtures (3, 3').

Claim 13, change status modifier from "(Withdrawn)" to "(Previously Present)".

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A connection device suitable for
providing controlled sealing between a pipe and a ceramic tube, said device comprising:
a cylindrical chamber (5) which at one of its ends is attachable in a sealed
manner to a pipe, said chamber also having an opening at the other end to permit
placement of one end of a ceramic tube inside said chamber,

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at least two sets of sealing fixtures (3, 3') positioned within said chamber for contacting the outer surface of a ceramic tube positioned inside said chamber, a crosspiece (4) interposed between said two sets of sealing fixtures, a compression ring (4') for compressing said two sets of sealing fixtures (3,3'), the compression ring (4') applying longitudinal pressure to one set of sealing fixtures (3') which compress against the crosspiece (4), the crosspiece (4) applying longitudinal pressure against the other set of sealing fixtures (3) that compress with respect to the housing (5), and an inlet port (8) for injection of a fluid between said two sets of sealing fixtures.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M. Dunwoody whose telephone number is 571-272-7080. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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